

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~The present invention relates to a~~ playback apparatus and method, ~~which are~~ capable of reading streaming data recorded on an information recording medium in compliance with an FAT scheme continuously without delay, ~~to a recording medium for use therewith, and to a program therefor. In a DRAM for file playback information, file~~ File playback information for playing back a file generated on the basis of the FAT is generated by a CPU ~~is and stored in a DRAM. The file playback information is file playback information for playing back a file A generated on the basis of the FAT. In the file playback information, the cluster addresses of clusters used to record a corresponding file are recorded in sequence in the order in which they are used. In the file playback information of the file A, The cluster addresses CL1, CL2, CL3, . . . , CL329, and CL330, in which files A-1 to A-18 forming the file A are recorded, are recorded, and are followed by an EOF as an end mark is recorded following the cluster address CL330. The present invention can be applied to a hard disk recorder.~~